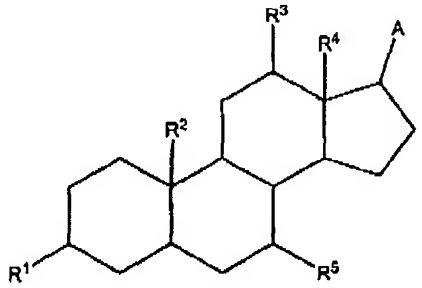
Amendments to the Claims:

Please enter the following amendments:

Please cancel, without prejudice, claims 1 and 3-23.

1. **(Cancelled)**

2. **(Original)** An amide of a bile acid/salt of formula (II):



(II)

wherein R^1 to R^5 are independently selected from OH, H or C_{1-6} alkyl; and A is $-R^6$-CO-X-Y

wherein R^6 is C_2 to C_6 branched or linear alkylene;

X is at least one peptide chain of at least 4 amino acids in length which may be linear, branched or comprise two or more cross-linked polypeptide chains; and

Y is OH, NH_2, or a C_1-C_6 ester group bonded to the terminal carboxy of the polypeptide chain.

3-23. **(Cancelled)**

24. **(Previously presented)** The amide according to claim 2, wherein the peptide is from 4 to 600 amino acids long.

25. **(Previously presented** The amide according to claim 2, wherein the peptide is from 4 to 200 amino acids long.

26. **(Previously presented)** The amide according to claim 2, wherein the bile salt is mono-, di- or tri-hydroxylated.

27. **(Previously presented)** The amide according to claim 2, wherein the bile salt contains a 3α-hydroxyl group.

28. **(Previously presented)** The amide according to claim 2, wherein the bile salt is an amphiphilic polyhydric sterol bearing carboxyl groups as part of the primary side chain.

29. **(Previously presented)** The amide according to claim 2, wherein the bile salt is underivatised or derivatised.

30. **(Previously presented)** The amide according to claim 29, wherein the underivatised bile salt is selected from cholate, deoxycholate, chenodeoxycholate and ursodeoxycholate.

31. **(Previously presented)** The amide according to claim 30, wherein the bile salt is cholate.

32. **(Previously presented)** The amide according to claim 2, wherein the derivatised bile salt is selected from taurocholate, taurodeoxycholate, tauroursodeoxycholate, taurochenodeoxycholate, glycocholate, glycodeoxycholate, glycoursodeoxycholate, glycochenodeoxycholate, taurolithocholate and glycolithocholate.

33. **(Previously presented)** The amide according to claim 2, wherein the peptide is selected from insulin, secretin, gastrin, gastrin releasing peptide, glucagon, cholecystokinin (CCK), gastric inhibitory peptide (also known as glucose insulinotropic peptide (GIP)), parathyroid hormone, thyrotropin-releasing hormone, gonadotropin-releasing hormone (also known as luteinizing hormone releasing hormone (LHRH)), corticotropin-releasing hormone, somatostatin, adrencorticotropic hormone (ACTH), renin, angiotensin I, angiotensin II, atrial natriuretic hormone (ANH), somatomedins, calcitonin, haemoglobin, cytochrome C, horseradish peroxidase, aprotinin, mushroom tyrosinase, erythropoietin, somatotropin (growth hormone),

growth hormone releasing hormone, galanin, urokinase, Factor IX (also known as Christmas factor), tissue plasminogen activator, antibodies, superoxide dismutase, catalase, peroxidase, ferritin, interferon, Factor VIII, soy bean trypsin inhibitor, GLP, blood coagulation factors, somatostatin, antidiuretic hormone (ADH), oxytocin, hirudin, and glycoproteins, such as follicle stimulating hormone (FSH), luteinizing hormone (LH), inhibin, chorionic gonadotropin (CGT) and thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH).

34. **(Previously presented)** The amide according to claim 33, wherein the peptide is insulin.

35. **(Currently amended)** The amide ~~pharmaceutical composition~~ according to claim 33, wherein the somatomedins are selected from the group consisting of IGF1 and IGF2.

36. **(Currently amended)** The amide ~~pharmaceutical composition~~ according to claim 33, wherein the antibodies are selected from the group consisting of IgG, IgM, IgA. IgD, IgE.

37. **(Previously presented)** The amide according to claim 2, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is administered orally.

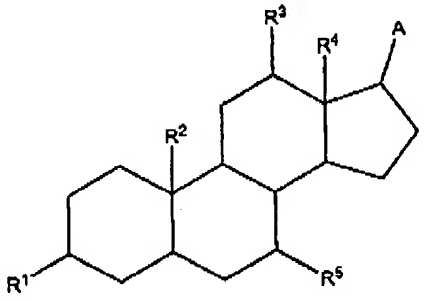
38. **(Previously presented)** The amide according to claim 37, wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises a conjugated peptide.

39. **(Previously presented)** The amide according to claim 2, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is encapsulated to prevent formulation degradation in the stomach.

40. **(Previously presented)** The amide according to claim 2 for treatment in a subject in need thereof.

41. **(Previously presented)** A method of treating an individual in need thereof comprising orally administering an amide according to claim 2.

42. **(Previously presented)** A method of making an amide according to claim 2 comprising, bringing into association an amide of a bile acid/salt of formula (II):



(II)

wherein R_1 to R_5 are independently selected from OH, H or C_{1-6} alkyl; and A is $-R^6-CO-X-Y$

wherein R^6 is C_2 to C_6 branched or linear alkylene;

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